

**Lincoln, Nebraska**  
**A Certified Local Government**  
**2011 Annual Report**  
March 30, 2012

**Overview**

The year 2011 was especially busy for the Lincoln CLG program and the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), due to its responsibilities (shared with the Urban Design Committee–UDC) to provide guidance on the Pinnacle Bank Arena/West Haymarket redevelopment project. Between the HPC’s regular meetings and joint meetings with UDC, the volunteer members met over 20 times in 2011. The Commission played a significant role in guiding that important and complex community project and protecting a major community asset–Haymarket Landmark District.

The Commission was renewed with reappointment of several members and the completion of service of long-time member and chairman Bob Ripley, and his well-qualified replacement by Liz Kuhlman.

National Register nominations tend to be long-term efforts and can be difficult to assign to a single year. The nomination of Meadow Gold Block was submitted in 2011 and listed in 2012. Much of the work on the Brownbilt District nomination took place in 2011 (and before); submission is taking place in 2012.

Educational programs remain a principal emphasis of our program using 5CityTV, tours, talks, and print media.

**Historic Preservation Commission**

The Lincoln HPC is a 7 member volunteer board, with members serving 3 years terms, nominated by the mayor and confirmed by the City Council. The enabling ordinance, chapter 27.57 of the zoning code (enclosed), was adopted in 1980 and continues with only minor amendments. The ordinance requires that the Commission include two registered architects, a real estate professional, a historian, and a landscape architect if available, as well as two members at large.

The Commission’s members:

- the longest serving member is Jim McKee, an author, lecturer, and pre-eminent Lincoln historian (by avocation and college degree), whose term began in Feb. 1985;
- Tim Francis, a real estate agent and community advocate, has served since 1997;
- Catherine Beecham, was appointed in 2007 and brings a strong neighborhood perspective as well as a master’s degree in archeology;
- Berwyn Jones, also appointed in 2007, is a retired chemistry professor and very active leader in Welch-American history organizations;
- Jim Johnson has served since 2008 and brings a thoughtful citizen perspective;

- Greg Munn is an architect with strong preservation background in the US and Canada; he was appointed in 2009 and serves as chairman;
- Liz Kuhlman is our newest member, appointed in April 2011 after the long service of Bob Ripley; Ms. Kuhlman is an architect, as is Mr. Ripley.

McKee, Beecham, Munn and Kuhlman constitute a majority of the HPC from recognized “preservation professions.” Francis, Jones, and Johnson are strong preservation advocates and by vocation and avocation make significant contributions to the board’s work.

Staffing for the Lincoln Commission is provided by the Planning Department, including secretarial support by Teresa McKinstry. Stacey Hageman joined the Planning staff in 2012 with a joint planning/architecture Masters from UNL; she will provide back-up support to the Commission. Ed Zimmer has been the department’s preservation planner since Feb. 1985 (coincidentally, the same month Jim McKee joined the HPC, perhaps leading to the persistent community confusion of these two individuals.) Zimmer’s resume is also enclosed.

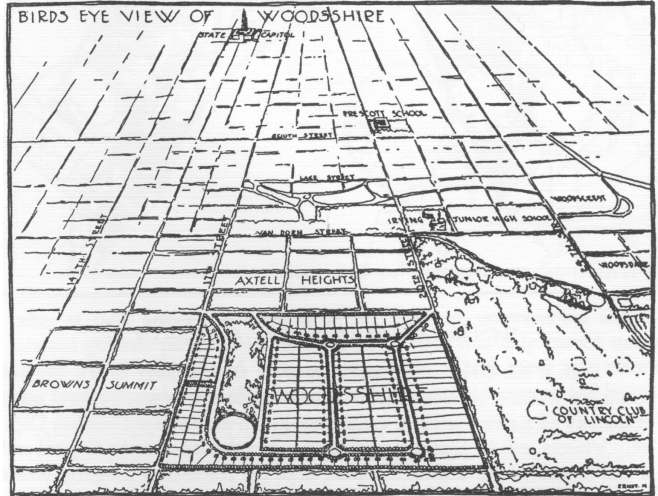
In addition to reviewing on-going projects in Haymarket, Havelock, residential districts, and at individual landmarks, the Commission continued to shoulder a major responsibility to provide input on the Arena/West Haymarket project, with particular emphasis on ensuring compatibility between the new work and the Historic Haymarket..

### **Historic Designations**

In 2011 the Commission recommended approval of two landmark properties, both utilizing the local zoning incentive of a special permit for historic preservation, which is only available to designated landmarks. Hac Grocery/The Chimes at 2943 Garfield was designated in June, supporting rehabilitation of the building as a duplex. That project has been completed.



The National Register nomination for the Woodsshire Residential Historic District was submitted in 2010, reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Board in January 2011, and listed on the Register in March 2011, adding 132 contributing resources to the Register.



## Survey Activities

## Educational Activities

Direct outreach efforts to neighborhoods, school classes, tour participants, and the public at large through 5CityTV remain the foundation of the Lincoln CLG program. Spring and fall walking tours at Wyuka Cemetery continue to be popular, often drawing over 100 participants. A walk in Woodsshire in May 2011 was similarly well attended and resulted in a long-running program on government access TV. Preservation Association of Lincoln continues to present their long-running monthly Brown Bag lectures and Lincoln CLG has presented programs and sponsored broadcasts again in 2011. Classroom presentations to 3<sup>rd</sup> graders as part of their “community curriculum” are among the most rewarding educational activities for staff, and hopefully the

children enjoy and learn from them as well. A continually evolving presentation of African American heritage titled “Lincoln in Black & White” was the most frequently offered program to church and service groups.

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Respectfully submitted, March 30, 2012  
Ed Zimmer, Lincoln Planning Department

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